

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner allowed Claims 9 and 11. Claims 1-8, 10 and 12-18, which were all of the other pending claims, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over the prior art, principally U.S. Patent 6,247,172 (Dunn). In particular, Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 10 and 12-16 were rejected as being unpatentable over Dunn in view of U.S. Patent 6,363,522 (Click); and Claims 3, 5, 8, 17 and 18 were rejected as being unpatentable over Dunn in view of Click and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,412,109 (Ghosh).

In order to expedite an issuance of this application, Applicants are herein canceling all of the rejected claims – that is, Claims 1-8, 10 and 12-18. This leaves only the allowed Claims 9 and 11 in the application and is thus believed to place this case in condition for allowance.

Applicants herein expressly reserve the right to file a continuation application to continue the prosecution of the subject matters of Claims 1-8, 10 and 12-18.

In light of the above-discussion, a notice of allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicants' Attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is asked to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven Fischman
Registration No. 34,594
Attorney for Applicants

Scully, Scott, Murphy & Presser
400 Garden City Plaza – Suite 300
Garden City, New York 11530
(516) 7472-4343

SF:JSS:jy